

**State Special Education Advisory Committee  
(SSEAC)**

**Holiday Inn Koger Center  
Richmond, Virginia**

**Thursday October 15, 2010**

<b>SSEAC Members</b>					
	<b><i>Present</i></b>	<b><i>Absent</i></b>		<b><i>Present</i></b>	<b><i>Absent</i></b>
Eva Aikens	x		Mona Holmes	x	
Judy Averill	x		Lori Jackson	x	
Mike Behrmann	x		Bernadette Jones		x
Suzanne Bowers	x		Jackie Myal	x	
Mary Ann Discenza	x		Jacqueline Nelson	x	
Christina Draper	x		Jennifer O'Berry-Ham	x	
Fran Goforth	x		Peter Squire	x	
Melodie Henderson	X		Tamara Temoney	x	
Sandra Hermann	x		Carletta Wilson		x

<b>Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) Staff</b>			
Pat Abrams	Doug Cox	Marianne Moore	Shelley Loving-Ryder
Cathy Pomfrey	Suzanne Creasey	Samantha Marsh	Irene Walker-Bolton
Gloria Dalton	Anne Rowe		
Paul Raskopf	John Eisenberg		

<b>Guests</b>			
Carolyn Beckett	Melanie Sterling	Muna Karim	Judy Farabaugh
Samantha Vanterpool	Cheli Echert	Kelly Greenwood	
Laurella Williams	Vickie Cattaneo	Frederique Vincent	
Harvey Clarke	Jake Callaham	Glenda Mikulak	
Louise LeBron	Beth Haw	Kate Brooks	

## **Call to Order**

Dr. Mike Behrmann, Chair, called the meeting to order. He asked everyone to introduce themselves. He introduced Dr. Scott Kizner, Superintendent of Harrisonburg City Schools and welcomed him to the committee.

## **Business Session**

Dr. Behrman established that there was a quorum.

### ***1. Minutes***

The minutes from the July 2010 meeting were reviewed and approved as written.

Ms. Sandy Hermann requested that the committee continue to receive information regarding restraint and seclusion.

### ***2. Annual Report***

It was reported that the 2009-2010 Annual Report had been completed after being approved at the July 2010 SSEAC meeting. Due to a full agenda for the September Board of Education (BOE) meeting, the presentation of the SSEAC Annual Report was rescheduled for the BOE's October meeting.

### ***3. Follow-up to Public Comment from July 2010 meeting***

Mr. Doug Cox reported that staff at the VDOE had followed up on the public comments from the July 2010 meeting. One comment dealt with the change in developmental delay and one comment dealt with training on child abuse and neglect. One commenter complemented the SSEAC for its work.

### ***4. Executive Committee Vacancy***

It was announced that Ms. Suzanne Bowers has resigned from the committee. Dr. Behrman asked the nominating committee to meet and return with a nominee for SSEAC Vice-Chairman to be voted on at the afternoon session.

### ***5. Subcommittee Assignments***

Dr. Behrmann reviewed the subcommittee matrix. He asked that Dr. Scott Kizner let him know if he wishes to be changed to another committee.

## **6. Future Meeting Schedule and Locations**

(Locations tentative)

- February 10-11, 2011 - Doubletree Hotel Richmond Airport
- April 14-15, 2011 - Doubletree Hotel Richmond Airport
- July 14-15, 2011 - Doubletree Hotel Richmond Airport

## **Presentations**

### **1. Assistant Superintendent Report**

Mr. H. Douglas Cox, Assistant Superintendent  
Special Education and Student Services, VDOE

Mr. Cox reviewed VDOE activities including:

- Mr. Cox welcomed visitors and new member Dr. Scott Kizner to the committee. He indicated regret over Ms. Suzanne Bowers' resignation, and indicated that the BOE will be seeking nominations for the parent vacancy from Region 4.
- Dr. Wright and Dr. Behrmann received a letter from the Commission on Youth requesting that the committee review barriers to students with disabilities. In response to this request, Ms. Anne Rowe (substituting for George Wilcox) from the VDOE and will provide an overview of career and technical education current initiatives, including information on the availability to students with disabilities.
- The Virginia Department of Education and Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) announced in August the establishment of the Center of Excellence for Autism Spectrum Disorders. A collaborative venture of VDOE and VCU's Schools of Education and Medicine, the center will serve as a focal point for research, professional development and technical assistance in implementing research-based effective practices and comprehensive services for students with autism. The center is funded through a start-up grant from VDOE.
- VDOE reported in August to the Senate Finance Committee Subcommittee on Health and Human Resources and Education on students with Autism Spectrum Disorders. The report included child count statistics, an overview of guidelines, accomplishments to date as well as future plans.
- *A Summit on Better Serving Students with Emotional Disabilities* was held in Charlottesville in August. Mr. Cox expressed praise for the summit and for Virginia's efforts in this area.
- The third cohort of Aspiring Special Education Leaders began its year-long training in August. Supported by The Virginia Department of Education, this Academy is designed to help prepare potential leaders for future administrative positions in special education. The cohort is scheduled to attend and observe the February 2011 meeting of the SSEAC.

- Dr. Pat Abrams is again this year working with newly appointed local special education directors. The Academy for New Special Education Directors began in September and will continue with programs throughout the year. Directors will be provided with an overall orientation to the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) and will receive information on a variety of topics.
- Ms. Amy Edwards, VDOE's specialist for Medicaid, was praised for her work in this area. Ms. Edwards served as president of the National Alliance for Medicaid in Education, Inc. (NAME), a non-profit organization that represents the nation's state Medicaid and Education agencies staff who have programmatic responsibility for administering Medicaid's Administrative Claiming and/or Direct Billing of Health Related Service programs in public schools, as well as Local Education Agencies participating in the Medicaid program. Ms. Edwards was instrumental in bringing their 2010 Annual Conference to Williamsburg in September.
- A meeting was held with a number of local practitioners to discuss homebound standards and determine if any restructuring is needed as a result of the 2010 General Assembly session.
- Mr. Cox was invited to participate in a meeting with Secretary Duncan in Washington, DC to discuss the Reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) which included a discussion regarding how ESEA could be aligned with IDEA.

## **2. Career and Technical Education**

Ms. Anne Rowe, CTE Cluster Coordinator

Technology, Career and Adult Education, Virginia Department of Education

Ms. Anne Rowe provided information on Career and Technical Education and current initiatives. Topics included:

- the current role and purpose of Career and Technical Education (CTE),
- Academic Career Plans and Career Clusters/Pathways/Plans of Study,
- new technical diplomas,
- The Virginia Wizard,
- industry credentialing and their impact on technical skills attainment reported on Annual Performance Reports and School Report Cards,
- the new Workplace Readiness Skills (WRS) and the development of a WRS assessment,
- an overview of the full technical skills attainment requirements for CTE completers,
- an overview of the CanDo course competency attainment management system which includes identification of students with IEPs for accommodations considerations, and
- an update on the status of the CTE regulations revision process.

Ms. Rowe may be contacted at [Anne.Rowe@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:Anne.Rowe@doe.virginia.gov) or 804-225-2838. The PowerPoint presentation will be available on the CTE Website at:

[http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/career\\_technical/administration/presentations/index.shtml](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/career_technical/administration/presentations/index.shtml) .

## **Break**

### **3. *Discussion on Barriers to Students with Disabilities – A Request from the Commission on Youth***

A discussion was facilitated by Mike Behrmann, SSEAC Chair

The membership discussion included:

- Ms. Jackie Myal expressed enthusiasm about implications of career clusters;
- A discussion about the ways that students with special needs are included in CTE coursework;
- A request for Glenda Lewis from CanDo to present at the next meeting;
- Higher dropout rates for special education students; and
- Ms. Sandy Hermann expressed her desire to see CTE as a mandatory component in transition services for special education students.

A motion was made by Dr. Peter Squire and seconded by Ms. Sandy Hermann requesting data on students with special needs currently receiving CTE classes and accommodations and that a lead team to consist of Sandy Hermann, Judy Averill, Fran Goforth and Peter Squire be created to determine what questions to ask as a result of the data. The motion passed.

## **Public Comment**

Katie Brooks, the mother of a child with Down syndrome, commented on the unmet needs of students in elementary school who do not meet VAAP criteria but cannot take SOLs. She supports accountability addressing foundation skills of reading, writing, basic math and daily life skills.

### **4. *State Performance Plan-Annual Report Update***

Mr. Paul Raskopf, Director, Financial and Data Services  
Special Education and Student Services, VDOE

Mr. Raskopf provided an update on the State Performance Plan and the Annual Performance Report data collection and reporting requirements.

## **Lunch**

## **Presentations Continued**

### **5. *Autism Spectrum Activity Update***

Ms. Samantha Marsh, Specialist, Instructional Support and Related Services Special Education and Student Services, VDOE

Ms. Marsh provided an update on the population of students with autism spectrum disorders in Virginia public schools as well as the development of resources, training and technical assistance opportunities for professionals and families.

## **Break**

### **6. *Emotional Disability Study and Summit Report***

Ms. Irene Walker-Bolton, Specialist, Special Education Instructional Services  
Special Education and Student Services, VDOE

Ms. Walker-Bolton shared that there are 475,000 students nationally with ED. She reviewed the results of the Emotional Disability Study and provided an overview of the Summit Report.

### **7. *State Assessment Update- VA Modified Assessment Standards Test – Discussion on Policy Recommendations***

Mr. Doug Cox, Assistant Superintendent  
Special Education and Student Services, VDOE  
Ms. Shelley Loving-Ryder, Assistant Superintendent  
Student Assessment and School Improvement, VDOE

Ms. Loving-Ryder provided an update on the Virginia Modified Achievement Standards Test (VMAST) and talked about policy questions that will be addressed by the BOE. She reviewed relevant language from the Standards of Accreditation (SOA) and the SOA Guidance Document.

Ms. Sandy Hermann made a motion to recommend that the BOE add grade 8 reading and math as approved tests to meet the literacy and numeracy requirements of the Modified Standard Diploma. Dr. Scott Kizner seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Sandy Hermann moved that the SSEAC support VDOE's interpretation of the VMAST Algebra 1 and end of course reading as meeting the state's verified credit requirement for a standard diploma. Ms. Melodie Henderson seconded. The motion passed

## **Break**

## Constituency Reports

Name	Report
Eva Aikens	none
Judy Averill	<p>Announcements:            "College 4 U" is a college event for middle and high school students with disabilities, parents, guardians, and professionals.            Date: November 6, 2010            Time: 10:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.            Place: J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College            1651 East Parham Road            Richmond, VA 23228            Register online and click on the "Online Registration Form" link at:  <a href="http://www.vcu.edu/ttac/professional_development/">http://www.vcu.edu/ttac/professional_development/</a>            Transition Practitioners Meeting East            Date: Oct. 21, 2010            Time: 9:00-2:30            Location: Williamsburg, Va., Great Wolf Lodge</p>
Mike Behrmann	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Autism training continues to be an area of concern for professional development. Funds available through the Autism Council have been effective but many teachers want a training program and licensure in "Autism". Current endorsement is either for the general curriculum (mild disabilities) or adapted curriculum (severe) and the spectrum and thus cross both areas.</li> <li>Federal regulations from the Office of Postsecondary Education have been released for students with intellectual disabilities in postsecondary programs and eligibility for federal loans are being released. VCU has obtained a grant from OPE for model program development for postsecondary students with intellectual disabilities. George Mason is holding a national conference on the state of the art in Postsecondary Programs for students with intellectual disabilities on October 28 and 29.</li> </ul>
Suzanne Bowers	absent
Mary Ann Discenza	none
Christina Draper	none
Fran Goforth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Fall VCASE conference was held in Charlottesville on October 13, 2010. This 11th Policy Institute on Policy, Information and Best Practices was sponsored by VCASE in collaboration with the Virginia Department of Education. Dr. Luann Purcell, Executive Director with National CASE was the guest speaker and she covered the topic of "Are you Using 21st Century Leadership Skills?". Other topics covered communication during IEP meetings, an update on Section 504, and general special education issues.</li> <li>As the budget cycle begins again for the 2011-2012 school year, Directors of Special Education are concerned with the loss of stimulus dollars that have been utilized for the last two years that have the potential of affect staffing in schools.</li> </ul>

<b>Constituency Reports</b>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Report</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Directors of Special Education have spearheaded activities within their respective school divisions related to October being designated as “Virginia Disability History and Awareness Month.”</li> </ul>
Melodie Henderson	<p>Special education teachers have expressed concerns regarding the replacement of the VGLA with the VMAST specifically in the areas of :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Qualification criteria</li> <li>2. Is it structured in a manner that will be protected from administrative manipulation</li> </ol>
Sandra Hermann	none
Mona Holmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I am excited about having some of the chairs from local SEACS Regions 4 and 5. Thank you for joining us.</li> <li>• Also, I am happy to report that we have seen an increase in programs on Disability Awareness this month. I had the opportunity to attend the “Show Your Spark” assembly last week in Fluvanna. This was an amazing show. It was high energy. It kept the kids engaged. And, most importantly, it was so educational.</li> <li>• Then, lastly, I want to plug “The 3rd Annual Live and Learn Conference” on Saturday November 13 sponsored by PREP/PRC in Charlottesville. There will be two time slots with eight breakout sections on multiple topics such as AT, IEP’s, Sensory Integration, Family Dynamics, Transitions, etc. Concerns about special education students testing results on AVP.</li> <li>• What we as a local SEAC can do to help improve special education test scores.</li> </ul>
Lori Jackson	none
Bernadette Jones	absent
Jackie Myal	none
Jacqueline Nelson	none
Jennifer O’Berry Ham	none
Peter Squire	none
Tamara Temoney	none
Carletta Wilson	absent
(PEATC) Carolyn Beckett Information Specialist	(see final pages of this document)

Ms. Mona Holmes, Chair of the nominating committee, nominated Jackie Fagan Myal to the position of vice-chairman. The motion passed.

The group formed as a result of the morning presentation met and shared CTE questions. Dr. Peter Squire moved to forward the following questions:



1. Total number of students with and without disabilities; what is the breakdown for students with disabilities according to:
  - a. IEP vs. 504 Code
  - b. Disability Code - LD, ID, ED, etc...
2. Number of CTE courses? Breakdown by:
  - a. Clusters
3. The number of student with and without disabilities in CTE clusters
4. Pass / Failure rates of Industry Certifications for students with and without disabilities
5. Number of Industry Certifications / Vendors that do and do not provide accommodations during the certifications

Coming from a committee, the motion needed no second; the motion passed.

Mr. Harvey Clarke, SEAC chair from Bedford County shared information on the use of Microboards to support independent living.

- Circle of friends to care for disabled adult
- VHDA will finance the home
- Took six months; 1300 sq. feet modified for ADA
- \$141,000 (caregiver pays VA; adult pays ½)
- Medicaid waiver pays caregiver

### **Friday, October 15, 2010**

<b>SSEAC Members</b>					
	<b><i>Present</i></b>	<b><i>Absent</i></b>		<b><i>Present</i></b>	<b><i>Absent</i></b>
Eva Aikens	x		Mona Holmes	x	
Judy Averill	x		Lori Jackson	x	
Mike Behrmann	x		Bernadette Jones		x
Suzanne Bowers		x	Jackie Myal	x	
Mary Ann Discenza		x	Jacqueline Nelson		x
Christina Draper	x		Jennifer O'Berry-Ham	x	
Fran Goforth	x		Peter Squire	x	
Melodie Henderson	x		Tamara Temoney		x
Sandra Hermann	x		Carletta Wilson		x

<b>Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) Staff</b>			
Pat Abrams	Suzanne Creasey	Susan Trulove	Gloria Dalton
Cathy Pomfrey	John Eisenberg	Tara McDaniel	

<b>Guests</b>			
Samantha Vanterpool	Michelle Eckert	Vickie Cattaneo	
Judy Farabaugh	Jake Callahan		

### **Call to Order**

Dr. Mike Behrmann called the meeting to order.

### **Ad Hoc Subcommittee's Reports**

Ad hoc subcommittees met and reported.

#### ***SOP Subcommittee***

The SOP subcommittee members met to review the VSDB Annual Plan that was omitted at the May subcommittee meeting. The VSDB newly appointed Board of Visitors reviewed the Plan. The VSDB Plan is reviewed by VDOE staff for final approval. The facility expansion and renovations are almost complete. The budget request for federal funds was the only area where changes were made to comply with the appropriate use of federal special education funds.

#### ***Personnel Ad Hoc Subcommittee***

Ms. Jennifer O'berry Ham reported.

- New Special Education Directors Institute (about 20) was recently held
- All grants were flat funded
- Tuition assistance for teacher prep programs will continue
- University of Richmond will have a new undergraduate and graduate level general curriculum special education program (submitted to ABTEL)
- Update on SLPs; committee asked for more information at next meeting as well as information on BCBA programs

#### ***Constituency Involvement Ad Hoc Subcommittee***

Ms. Christina Draper reported.

- Very pleased with the participation of local SEAC members at this meeting
- Want to invite two more regions for the February 2011 meeting
- Need to send out invitations earlier to correct mail and e-mail addresses

- At February meeting, the SEAC guests will also join the Aspiring Leaders cohort
- Recommendation: that we request current SEAC chair get contact information from the special education director to be dispersed to parent representatives.
- All SSEAC members are expected to participate in the next “meet and greet.”
- Recommendation: hold the “meet and greet” immediately after SSEAC has adjourned – bringing them to the table

### ***Rtl Ad Hoc Subcommittee***

Dr. Peter Squire reported.

- 15 Pilot sites still continue operations in their 3rd year. Not certainly when they will finish, but there will be a final report.
- VDOE recently hired a contractor to help with RTI support to provide the following help:
- Updated Guidance Document
- Coach Manual
- Training Modules
- The efforts should be completed by the end of next summer
- New RTI Cohort Divisions will be selected very soon. They will not receive any funding but will receive training for free.

### ***Region 4 and 5 Focus Group Report (VCU-PPD)***

Dr. Melanie Sterling, Director

Center for Family Involvement, Partnership for People with Disabilities, VCU

Dr. Sterling along with other staff from the Center for Family Involvement engaged the SEAC chairs from Regions 4 and 5 who were in attendance in a focus group discussion related to their local SEACs and ways that the SSEAC can support their efforts. Dr. Sterling shared the following from their discussion.

#### ***Local SEACs Successes***

- Hosting a picnic for SpEd teachers in spring to say ‘thank you’
- Holding an annual SpEd conference
- Bring in community agencies
- Involving principals in meetings
- Conducting a standing meeting with superintendent & school board chair
- Identifying parent involvement as an upcoming focus
- Providing child care at meetings to make attending easier
- Developing a precise list of goals for the SEAC
- Establishing great administrative support

### ***Local Challenges***

- Facilitating communication (local/state)
- Keeping members focused (systemic vs. personal)
- Dealing with lack of progress on critical issues
- Recruiting & maintaining diverse membership
- Addressing conflict between School Administration & SEAC limits collaboration

### ***Ways SSEAC can support local SEACs***

- Improving communication among SSEAC and local SEAC Chairpersons (parent reps/subcommittee)
- Coordinating regional SSEAC training on different topics
- Continuing to invite & support local SEAC Chairperson in participating at SSEAC meetings.

### ***Services or Products Helpful to Local SEACs***

- Providing funds to local SEACs to support operating expense
- Making available materials for local SEACs re: parliamentary procedures, parent info, acronyms, etc.
- Creating Web-based resources and information regarding material and training

## **Public Comment Review from Thursday AM**

Dr. Mike Behrmann reviewed the public comment from Kate Brooks and noted that the issue is being addressed through the development of VMAST.

## **Future Agenda Items**

Suggestions included:

- CSA issues – update and current issues
  - Testing options (concern regarding students who do not fit into current testing options)
  - Life Space Crisis Intervention/other strategies (next July)
  - Follow up with restraint/seclusion
  - Rise in the number of students diagnosed with depression (special education population) and concern that it does not fall under ED category
  - Systematic data collection methods for IEP performance
  - What data does the state collect on students
  - Funding at local level too low to develop these Pre-K programs
  - Standards-based IEP process
- February 2011 meeting:*
- Annual report data (Paul Raskopf)
  - CTE update to answer questions

## **Future Meeting Dates**

(Locations tentative)

- February 10-11, 2011 - Doubletree Hotel Richmond Airport
- April 14-15, 2011 - Doubletree Hotel Richmond Airport
- July 14-15, 2011 - Doubletree Hotel Richmond Airport

## **Meeting Adjourned**

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### **Virginia State Special Education Advisory Committee October 15-16, 2010**

**Carolyn Beckett, Information Specialist**

**Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center (PEATC)**

As Virginia's Parent Training and Information Center for families of children with disabilities, PEATC provides families and the professionals who work with them training and support regarding early intervention and special education systems. PEATC works to promote active partnerships between parents and professionals that lead to positive results for children.

### **PTI Highlights**

- **Cathy Healy Appointed as New CEO of PEATC**

FALLS CHURCH, September 7, 2010 — The Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center (PEATC) today announced the new Chief Executive Officer of the organization is Cathy Healy. She brings 24 years of personal and professional experience in the disability field and will take the helm from long time Executive Director Cherie Takemoto October 1, 2010.

"I'd like to thank Cherie Takemoto for her years of service and commitment to families. It is an honor and a privilege to assume leadership of PEATC," said Healy. Takemoto has been with PEATC since 1990 and became Executive Director in 1994. "I'm proud of the work that PEATC does to build positive futures for children. I look forward to innovative new ways that PEATC will be able to support family-school-community partnerships under Cathy's leadership," said Takemoto.

Healy first worked at PEATC from 1997 until 2001 as an information specialist and the project coordinator of the Caring Communities for Children in Foster Care program. She also coordinated a volunteer base in support of the 20th Anniversary Gala. She left her post in 2001 after being accepted as a Joseph P. Kennedy Foundation Public Policy Fellow where she worked for the Office of Disability Employment Policy at the U.S. Department of Labor. Upon completion of the fellowship, Healy was recruited by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Center for Workforce Preparation as a disability employment program officer. While at the Chamber, Healy developed a number of publications focusing on the business case for hiring people with disabilities and supported the successful launch of the U.S. Business Leadership Network. In 2007, Healy returned to PEATC as the director of training and curriculum development and managed the award winning NEXT STEPS Transition Program.

### **August PEATC Leadership Conference for Parents –**

- PEATC was privileged to have more than 40 community leaders apply to this year's Parent's as Collaborative Leader (PACL) training. Of those applicants, 18 were selected to attend the three day training at the beautiful Inn at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, VA from August 25 to August 28. PACL is a research based workshop developed by the University of Vermont in collaboration with PACER that is designed to promote leadership skill development in parents. In addition to networking with other families, participants honed their leadership skills and received two PEATC content-specific workshops to facilitate in their communities. Participants also had the opportunity to connect with the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) Special Education Ombudsman Gloria Dalton. Ms. Dalton supplied participants with VDOE developed resources designed to support families' participation in the special education process. She also detailed her role at VDOE. The keynote address was provided by Dr. Robert Pasternack, former Assistant Secretary of Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS) U.S. Department of Education. He shared national data with the group pertaining to over identification of minority students and the high dropout rate of students with disabilities and the need to ensure that students with disabilities are receiving maximum access to quality instruction. PEATC will be offering another Parents as Collaborative Leaders Training in late August of 2011, again in Blacksburg, VA. The application process will begin in May 2011.

### **Outreach**

- Organized by PEATC staff member, Rosalia Fajardo, over 500 families filled the Annandale High School auditorium on October 7<sup>th</sup> to celebrate culture (performances from different countries) and find out about the importance of parents. Parents of children of all ages (babies to post-high school) attended to learn how it is possible for their children, including those with disabilities, to go to college. Successful Latinos, talked about their road (direct and indirect) to a college education. The event reinforced the seed of hope that parents have for their children - regardless of income, education or citizenship. Glorimar Maldonado Nosal, Chief of Staff for the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics from the Office of the Secretary of the US Department of Education, was one of the speakers. She talked about how her parents pushed her to succeed; how she was embarrassed to have to take remedial classes at the community college, but she pressed on none-the-less. She was very impressed with the turnout and with the positive reception she received.
- On Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, PEATC will co-sponsor the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Autism Conference in Spanish in Falls Church, Va. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Oliveras-Rentas, a pediatric neuropsychologist who works with children, teenagers and adults with autism spectrum disorders. A large turnout is expected.

### **TRENDS**

- **Increased Number of Workshop Requests and Intake Calls from SW Virginia**

PEATC is pleased to report that it is experiencing an increased number of workshop requests from local SEACs and other agencies in Regions VI, VII and VIII. During the current quarter, PEATC staff will be presenting training programs in Cumberland, Fishersville, Botetourt, Marian, Patrick County and Bedford, VA. Training requests include presentations of the following workshops:

- How to Talk So Schools Will Listen and Listen So Schools Will Talk
- Understanding Special Education: The Special Education Cycle
- Parents: Home Information Specialists
- Positive Behavioral Interventions
- The ABCs of Behavior
- Friendship Building Strategies
- Is Your Child a Target of Bullying
- Measurable IEP Goals
- Puberty and Sexuality: Journey to Adulthood (new)
- Age of Majority (in progress)